News release

Global warming is not urban

18 November 2004

A new study at the Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research at the Met Office, demonstrating that large-scale global warming is not a result of urban development, is published in *Nature* today.
Measurements of night-time air temperature, averaged across a number of weather stations worldwide, show a rate of warming of around 0.19 °C per decade during the period 1950-2000. This rate is the same for calm conditions as it is for windy.

David Parker of the Hadley Centre, who undertook the research, says: "Urban developments have not affected the estimated worldwide warming trend; if they had, the rate of warming would have been greater on calm nights than on windy nights."

The results of the study are comparable with trends reported in the Third Assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 2001, and confirm that those trends are truly global and unaffected by urban development.

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